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We have received with satisfaction the reports of your proceedings each year, have followed with interest your discussions, and have felt that you were doing a good work in disseminating rational ideas concerning international relations, in educating society, and in preparing the way for a better era in international affairs.

We sympathize with you in the circumstances under which you meet this year. We regret this war; we regret the outburst of Jingoism which brought it about, and the condition of things in unhappy Cuba, which incited that outburst; and, most of all, we regret the departure of your great nation from the unique — we had almost said the proud — pacific position she has hitherto held, and her entrance on the perilous paths of military and naval rivalry, which can only bring misery and a surrender of high ideals to her own people, and intensify the miseries already existing among other nations.

At the same time we appreciate greatly the noble stand which many of you have made against the Jingo spirit, and the strenuous efforts you have put forth to induce the Government to follow better counsels than that of the politician and the mob.

We hope you will not be discouraged. You have failed to secure a hearing, that is all. The cause remains the same. The failure is one of effort only, not of principle, or even of method. That can be covered by fresh effort, and to that we pledge you anew. It is possible that this war may prepare the way to redeem our previous failure to secure the adoption of a permanent Treaty of Arbitration between the two countries, which would have been a first step in the organization of International Arbitration as the arbitrament of nations instead of war.

An Anglo-American Alliance for such an object, and for the introduction of an International régime of righteousness and peace, would be a grand achievement. It seems that we are nearer that than we were, that we are nearer it because of the momentary defeat. So let us gird ourselves anew to the work and join hands across the sea for the promotion of brotherhood, amity and concord.

There has been some difficulty between Italy and the United States of Colombia over the matter of the settlement of the Cerutti claim. The 2d of March, 1897, President Cleveland, to whom the case had been submitted, decided that Colombia should pay to Italy an indemnity of 1,500,000 francs, and also pay all the creditors of Cerutti. The Colombian government paid the former, but for a time declined to pay the latter, and in consequence the Italian government sent Admiral Candiani to Cartagena to enforce payment. The latest reports are that through the good offices of the British, French and German ministers the Colombian Congress has voted the necessary amount and authorized President Caro to settle the claim in full.

In the *American Monthly Review of Reviews* for August, Sylvester Baxter writes thus of the Spanish National character:

“The view that regards the Spanish as a decadent and degenerate people is a most mistaken one. Granting the severest things that can be said of the national organization of Spain and its dire results for a great part of the world, the national character is something quite different.

The valiant spirit, heroic and self-sacrificing, that enabled Spain to turn Napoleon's path from the heights of victorious renown down toward the depths of defeat, is by no means dead. It has, indeed, followed evil guidance in support of false pride, in the vain endeavor to hold what by right had been forfeited. It has paid the cost with well-nigh half a million lives and with treasure that might have lifted the land out of its poverty.

The intellectual power of the nation that gave to the world Cervantes and the great dramatists still persists. In contemporary literature the masters of Spanish fiction stand the peers of their contemporaries in all other lands. They have made the beautiful Castilian tongue a plastic vehicle for modern thought, and in sagacity, humor, breadth of vision, sanity of temperament, and humane spirit they are rightful heirs to the mantle of Cervantes. With so large a proportion of their countrymen illiterate and penniless, their pens have had little of the sordid in their incentive, and their single-minded following of high ideals has not been less than that which inspired the writing of “Don Quixote.”

The peasantry of Spain is marked by admirable traits. These poor and sturdy people are frugal, industrious, temperate, patient under heavy burdens, ground down by a crude and extortionate fiscal system, and doomed to grievous toil. Once let enlightenment and freedom come to them, and Spain will stand redeemed among nations.”

The 32d annual convention of the Universal Peace Union of Philadelphia was held in the Peace Temple, at Mystic, Conn., on the 24th, 25th and 26th of August. The crowds which gathered in the grove were large as usual. A number of letters were read from prominent persons who had been invited to be present. Alfred H. Love, who was re-elected president of the Union, made a personal statement in reference to the much discussed letter to the Queen of Spain and the removal of the Union from Independence Hall on account of it. Addresses were made by Hon. John W. Hoyt, Professor Daniel Bachellor, Dr. Agnes Kemp, Mrs. Amanda Deyo, William Lloyd Garrison, and others. Mr. Garrison's address, which was a strong one, we hope to publish in full. A cablegram of congratulation from the Austrian Peace Society was received and a letter of greeting from the Secretary of the London Peace Society. Resolutions were passed declaring strongly against the unreasonableness and inhumanity of war and the national insanity accompanying it.

### Brevities.

We publish in this issue a number more of the speeches made at the Mohonk Arbitration Conference in June. The stenographic report of the proceedings of the Conference has been published. A copy may be had by addressing Albert K. Smiley, Lake Mohonk, Ulster Co., N. Y., and enclosing five cents to cover postage.

. . . Great Britain and Russia have agreed to submit to arbitration the question of the indemnity due to Great Britain from Russia for alleged illegal seizure of Canadian sealing vessels in Russian waters. Alphonse Rivier, professor of international law in Brussels University, who was appointed arbitrator in the case, has since died.

. . . The Norwegian Storting has voted 2,400 krone (about 650 dollars) for the travelling expenses of Deputies from the Norwegian parliament who are to attend the Interparliamentary Peace Conference at Lisbon; and 300 additional krone for secretarial expenses.

. . . It is reported from London that the British government has formally consented to arbitrate the boundary dispute between Chile and Argentina, if the matter is not mutually settled by the middle of August.

. . . In proroguing Parliament on the 12th of August, the Queen in her message said: "I have witnessed with the deepest sorrow the hostilities which have taken place between Spain and the United States, two nations to which my empire is bound by many ties of affection and traditions. Negotiations recently opened give fair ground for hoping that the deplorable conflict will be brought to a termination by the conclusion of an honorable and enduring peace."

. . . The war of 1859 between Austria on the one side and France and Sardinia on the other lasted two months and ten days. That between Prussia and Austria in 1866 lasted one month and three days. The Franco-Prussian war had been on only two months when France first made overtures for Peace. The war went on however some months afterwards. The recent war between the United States and Spain lasted three months and five days.

. . . The Anglo-Egyptian expedition arrived at Wady Hamed August 24; thence it advanced to El Hajir, where all the troops were to be concentrated for the final march on Omdurman, 40 miles away. It is reported that the Khalifa at Omdurman has 70,000 men, and means to fight.

. . . The pension roll has now reached the million mark. More pensions were granted the past year than in any year since the close of the civil war 33 years ago!!

. . . The United States flag was raised at Honolulu on the 12th of August, immediately after the formal ratification of annexation by the Hawaiian government. The Hawaiian political societies, representing a large body of native Hawaiians, filed a protest against annexation without first obtaining the consent of the people of the Hawaiian islands.

. . . Everything about war comes high. The members of the Peace Commission who go to Paris for a few weeks or months are to receive \$25,000 each, and expenses.

. . . There is a movement on foot in Jamaica, said to have considerable strength, looking to the annexation of that island to the United States, as the best means of promoting the interests of the inhabitants. It is not reported who the promoters are.

## Senator White and the Spanish War.

BY CHARLES HOWARD MALCOM.

History reveals to us a continual procession of incidents. By an act of imagination we seem to see the migration of peoples, the founding of empires, the clash of battles, the progress of peaceful industry, and the thousand acts that go to make up the movement which we call the march of civilization. In this vast and changing panorama we behold here and there a figure of ex-

traordinary prominence. It may be a king, a statesman a warrior, a poet, a philanthropist, a scientist. So, every era has its leading characters. They stand forth upon the pages of history as mountains rise up against the blue sky. Already the war of the United States with Spain has developed such personages. In the army and navy; in the chairs of governors and the halls of Congress; in the editor's office and the home of benevolence, we see emerging into shape the figures that shall not soon perish. Amongst them all we discern the form of the Hon. Stephen M. White, of California, a member of the United States Senate.

Stephen Mallory White, of Los Angeles, was born in San Francisco, California, Jan. 19th, 1853. He was raised on a farm; was educated at St. Ignatius College, and at Santa Clara College, graduating from the latter institution. He studied law, and was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of California in 1874. He rose rapidly in his profession; became interested in politics; was chosen to a number of responsible positions; and was finally elected to the United States Senate, where he took his seat March 4, 1893.

On Saturday, April 16, 1898, Mr. White delivered a speech in the Senate of the United States which we do not hesitate to say will keep an honored place in history. The theme was "Cuban intervention." The nature of the topic, the character of the audience, and the state of feeling in the country at large gave the speech an unusual importance. Not often does it come to an orator to have such an occasion. Mr. White was equal to the emergency. The Senate had under consideration the joint resolution for the recognition of the independence of the people of Cuba, demanding that the government of Spain relinquish its authority and government in the Island of Cuba, and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters, and directing the President of the United States to carry these resolutions into effect.

Concerning this resolution Mr. White said that he recognized the solemnity of the occasion; that his conception of right was formed regardless of personal interest; and that he desired to do right, no matter what ill might attend him. He acknowledged that Cuba had been misgoverned. The President had been earnestly engaged in attempting to bring about order in Cuba. He hoped that war might be averted. All history is thronged with the terrible experiences of war. The destruction of the *Maine* fired the American heart with vengeance. Yet, Spain denies that she either directly or indirectly was responsible for that tragedy. General Lee said that he did not believe that General Blanco had even any knowledge of it. Mr. White proceeds to argue the whole case point by point. We cannot in this brief article follow his oration. It is sufficient to say it was lofty in thought and eloquent in expression; that it was a plea for reason and goodness as against passion and hate; that if its plea had been accepted arbitration and the principles of Christianity would no doubt have prevailed, and the awful atrocities of war would have been prevented.

It was my good fortune, when Secretary of the American Peace Society, to attend the International Peace Congress at Antwerp; and, after that, to plead both by voice and pen for the principle of arbitration. Alas! when the passions of men are excited, and revenge grows hot, and war is declared,—then follow evils which no speech can sufficiently express!